



Sabert delivers first domestically compostable childrens' ready-meals trays in Ireland

“Now that we use Pulp Ultra®, everything about how we produce our meals and everything about the child's experience in school is completely different and worlds apart from where we were prior to working with Sabert.”

Sabert Corporation Europe has delivered a unique solution for childrens' ready-meals for Irish school meals provider **Carambola**.

When Carambola approached Sabert, the brief was ambitious. The company was seeking the most environmentally friendly packaging possible for its school meals programme, with a clear requirement that the solution be 100% domestically compostable. In addition to its sustainability credentials, the tray needed to meet children's needs and capture their interest.

“It needed to be cool to the touch, and the right size for the particular portion sizes required for children's meals” says Carambola General Manager Jenny Eustace. “It also needed to be something that was aesthetically pleasing for children.”

“Carambola needed a tray that was truly multi-functional,” says Sabert Sales Manager Matt Nash. “They needed a tray that was sealable, ovenable, freezable, and that could travel as well. We had to get over a lot of hurdles to get to where we are today. We looked at every single material that is available to Sabert, and Pulp Ultra® just ticked all of the boxes for the customer.”

Exclusive formula

Pulp Ultra® is a new innovative formula exclusive to Sabert. It features no-intentionally-added-PFAS, achieving excellent performance and full compliance with legislation.

Made from over 95% bagasse fibres, treated with a barrier coating of <5%, Pulp Ultra® delivers outstanding Oil and Grease Resistance (OGR) permeation in direct contact hot food applications.

Ideal for fresh, ready-to-eat dishes and hot foods, PULP Ultra® outperforms existing market alternatives, including laminated products. It is freezer-safe and able to retain frozen goods integrity, perishable goods freshness, and keep factory conditioned items intact. Safe for use in microwaves, conventional ovens, and suitable for high-speed ovens, it is suitable for single PET sealing or multi-welding.

Pulp Ultra® responds positively to changes in legislation, with its no-intentionally-added-PFAS formulation, compliant with the European PPWR. Pulp Ultra® makes refuse collection simpler: it is recyclable (green in the UK's Recycling Assessment Methodology) and certified as Compostable TÜV OK Compost Home and Industrial.

Meeting green agendas

Pulp Ultra® has proven to be a highly effective packaging solution for Carambola, performing reliably throughout the entire production and regeneration process. The solution has also played a key role helping Carambola exceed its sustainability goals, supporting not only the green agenda needs for Carambola as a company but for our school's green agendas as well.

“Pulp Ultra® has been a wonderful packaging solution for us,” added Jenny Eustace. “One of the best things about working with Sabert, was that really listened to our requirements. They spent a huge amount of time with us learning our business, learning both our challenges and our wins, and finding us the best possible solution to fit our needs.”

A first in Ireland

“Now that we use Pulp Ultra®, everything about how we produce our meals and everything about the child's experience in school is completely different and worlds apart from where we were prior to working with Sabert,” says Carambola Co-Founder and Co-MD Colm O'Brien.

“Working with Sabert has been a joy, and I don't say that about many providers. When we first met Sabert, they came to visit and looked at what we were producing. They asked us about our longer term objectives around sustainability, around the green agenda. They went away and put their creative minds together and came back with a truly remarkable product, the first domestically compostable ready-meals tray in Ireland.”

Award-winning packaging solutions

Pulp Ultra® won the Green Apple Awards' National Silver in the Paper & Packaging category, from The Green Organisation, and was a finalist in the Product Innovation category of the Foodservice Packaging Association Awards. Pulp Ultra® was also a finalist in the New Packaging category of The Sammies – The Sandwich & Food to Go Industry Awards.

www.sabert.eu

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpkZo0uvbcg>



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About Sabert

Sabert is specialised in manufacturing and marketing food packaging, disposable high-quality tableware and compostable food packaging and tableware. Through various partnerships established with some of its customers, Sabert Corporation Europe commits to develop its products and its production's processes in a sustainable way. With 40 years of experience, Sabert provides innovative, value-added products to the highest quality standards supported by outstanding customer service. We have given ourselves the mission to offer our clients the best guarantees in terms of quality, safety and service. Today, our product solutions fulfill this vision and have earned the trust and loyalty of customers around the globe. As our employees and clients agree, Sabert makes food look great!

In July 2025, Sabert acquired Colpac Limited, a leading UK-based manufacturer of sustainable paperboard packaging solutions for the food-to-go foodservice and industrial markets.

About PFAS

From 12 August 2026, Regulation (EU) No 40/2025 on PPWR introduces new measures, including Article 5(5) paragraph 5, of Regulation (EU) No 40/2025 which restricts and introduces limits on the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), often referred to as 'forever chemicals' due to their persistence in the environment and the human body.

About Carambola

Carambola is the leading and longest-established school-meal specialist in Ireland, serving Irish school students with nutritious, high-quality food since 2003. Every day, Carambola delivers Good Food which makes Happy Faces.

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